

PARTICIPANT'S NOTES

SENT



*"the Word of God spread and the disciples multiplied"*

A PROCESS TO EQUIP PEOPLE TO INITIATE, BUILD AND MULTIPLY THE LOCAL CHURCH, FAITH COMMUNITIES & DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS, SO THAT EVERY FOLLOWER OF JESUS HAS A PLACE FOR CONNECTION, GROWTH AND EQUIPPING. THIS IS VITAL FOR THE VISION OF EVERYONE KNOWING SOMEONE WHO TRULY FOLLOWS JESUS.

# LAUNCH

## Preparing to Lead

Cru Church Movements exist to make Jesus known, multiply the church, and serve the city. In partnership, we long to advance the mission of Jesus by contributing to the growth and development of churches, faith communities, and followers of Jesus. Our mandate originates in Scripture, which teaches us that Jesus came to build His Kingdom through His Church (Matthew 16:18). It is our privilege to work shoulder to shoulder with believers around the world, loving, strengthening, and multiplying the Church of Jesus Christ.



# PROCESS OF SENT 6:7

- The mobilization training is called **LAUNCH - Preparing to Lead** (10 sessions represented in this booklet). This is for those who lead or are preparing to lead in ministry.

NOTE:

- We encourage all leaders, if possible, to attend [Becoming a CoJourneyer](#) workshop before **LAUNCH**, but it is not a disqualifier.
- After a few months we will invite all who begin a ministry to go through **DEVELOP**, but all will be invited to a Coaching Circle immediately.
- Our disciple-making pathway is called **PURSUE - Foundations for Growth** (Foundational Bible Studies, Study of Gospels, Study of Acts). This is for all followers of Jesus as well as those seeking.
- Our focus on leadership development is called **DEVELOP - Peer Coaching among Leaders** of Pursue Groups and church plants.

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Materials can be found online at: <https://churchmovements.com/sent67/>

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# Vision & Expectations

Sent 6:7 LAUNCH Participant Notes Opening Session

## INTRODUCTION - *the Mission of Church Movements*

We partner with the church to connect people to Jesus, make disciples and multiply both missional leaders and faith communities.

### Three Audiences:

1. The lost - we connect those far from God to Jesus and His gospel
2. Every follower of Jesus - we equip and mobilize ALL in the church, showing how they can share the gospel and make disciples
3. Pastors, church leaders, and church-planters - we long to help them increase their capacity and confidence to multiply faith communities, discipleship groups, and start new churches among the 160 million unsaved (in suburbs, high-rises, digital world, campuses, inner city).

## VISION

- Our vision is that every man, woman and child know the Gospel and experience the love of Jesus through vital, multiplying communities.

## STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

1. See the gospel shared and demonstrated to 160 million people in the U.S.
2. Establish 160,000 churches/faith communities – giving every unreached person access to one vital church.
3. Mobilize 1 million leaders to love, win, build, and send.

## BURDENS - What makes you weep, pray and pound the table?

## FOUR FIELDS AND SENT 6:7

- Acts 19:9-10. *“But when some became stubborn and continued in unbelief, speaking evil of the Way before the congregation, he withdrew from them and took the disciples with him, reasoning daily in the hall of Tyrannus. This continued for two years, so that all the residents of Asia heard the word of the Lord, both Jews and Greeks.”*
- Act 6:7 - *“And the word of God continued to increase (spread in NIV), and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly...”*
- In Acts 13 & 14 - What was the work that Barnabas & Saul were sent to do?

What does each field need?

- Empty Field
- Seeded Field
- Growing Field
- Gathered Field
- Leaders - Discovered, Developed and Deployed all fields

## EXPECTATIONS (Hopes, Aims, Goals)

*LAUNCH* is meant to EQUIP you to be trainers of this process - taking leaders through Launch so they can lead locally - those leaders who do Pursue. We'd like for you to think of your role, in your city, in two ways.

1. The mobilization training is called *LAUNCH - Preparing to lead* ([Becoming a CoJourneyer](#) seminar and the 10 sessions represented in this booklet).
2. Our disciple-making pathway is called *PURSUE - Foundations for growth* (Foundational Bible Studies, Study of Gospels, Study of Acts).
3. Our focus on leadership development is called *DEVELOP - Peer coaching among leaders* (topical studies for monthly or quarterly meetings). This is a community for leadership development and missional effectiveness.

## FURTHER STUDY RESOURCES:

- [What is the Church and How does Cru Relate to it?](#)



### Prayer and Care

- Read Philippians 4:8  
What are you thankful for this week?
- How are you doing this week? Is there anything we can be praying for you?
- Care for one another by praising God and praying for the needs that were shared.

### Motivation and Encouragement



### Activity #1: Acts 2:42-47 Communities

- Video: [This is Discipling](#)
  - What caught your attention and why?
- Read Acts 2:42-47 and discuss: What characteristics do you see in this passage? How does it relate to the video?
- A-P-E-S-T:

### Activity #2: The Impact of Multiplication

- Read Colossians 1:28-29 and Mark 3:13-19
  - What caught your attention and why?
  - Who, why, & how do we proclaim?
  - As you look at Jesus' example of discipling, what are some qualities that you notice?



### Preparing

- Oikos: one's circle of influence
- Example of Relational Networking: Acts 16:11-15, 25-34
  - What caught your attention and why?
- Choose an accountability partner and write their name on the [Oikos Network List](#)
- Set a time when you will meet.
- Download the [GodTools](#) App.

### Pursuing

- Whom will you tell about the training, the videos, or a new idea you learned?
- Write a [Next Step Goal](#) for the week using the "I will \_\_\_\_\_ (do) by \_\_\_\_\_ (when)" format and tell it to the group.

### Praying

- Commit everyone's goals to the Lord. Ask the Lord to help us be faithful and use us to start a movement of disciple-makers.

### In Your Time With God

Consider [reading](#) or [listening](#) to Transferable Concept #2: *How You Can Experience God's Love and Forgiveness* and [The U.S. as a New Mission Field](#)



### Prayer and Care

- What are you thankful for this week?
- Prayer Requests

### Celebrate Faithfulness

- How was your walk with Jesus this week?
- What happened as you trusted God with your goals and “I will by when” statements?

### Motivation and Encouragement



### Activity #1: Qualities of People Filled with the Spirit

- Discovery Bible Study (DBS): Read, discover, and retell to remember
- Read Acts 6:1-7.
  - What caught your attention and why?
- Pair-up and retell the story

### Activity #2: The Fruit of the Spirit

- Read Galatians 5:16-25.
  - What caught your attention and why?
  - How would our church be different if it were full of Christians who walked in the power of the Holy Spirit? How would our city be different?

### Activity #3: How to be Filled with the Holy Spirit (*Satisfied?*)

- Go through the [Satisfied?](#) booklet (also in [GodTools](#) app).

### Summary



### Preparing

- Review *Satisfied?* in your free time.
- **The Spiritual Breathing principle**
  - Exhale – 1 John 1:9 confess our sins, agree to change our attitude or actions
  - Inhale – surrender control of your life to Christ
  - Let's ask God to fill and empower our lives (See page 12 of *Satisfied?* booklet)

### Pursuing

- Go to or write the person(s) whom you noticed displaying the fruits of the Spirit, telling them you studied Galatians 5:16-25 this week and thought of them.
- Spend time with the Lord to make sure you are filled with the Holy Spirit.
- Let's trust God to share the [Satisfied?](#) booklet with others (2-3 people). Write their names on your [Oikos Network List](#).
- Is there a missional leader that's not yet participating in this training you could invite?
- Write your [Next Step Goals](#) (“I will by when”) and don't forget to be in touch with your accountability partner.

### Praying

- Commit everyone's goals to the Lord. Ask the Lord to help us be faithful and share the truths found in *Satisfied?*.

### In Your Time With God

[Read](#) or [listen](#) to Transferable Concept #3: *How You Can be Filled with the Holy Spirit*. You could discuss this with your accountability partner.



### Prayer and Care

- What are you thankful for this week?
- Prayer Requests

### Celebrate Faithfulness

- How was your walk with Jesus this week?
- What happened as you trusted God with your goals and “I will by when” statements?

### Motivation and Encouragement



### Activity #1: CoJourney's Overview

- [Four Roles](#) of a CoJourney
- What Explorer skills might help us understand a person better?

### Activity #2: Woman at the Well

- Read John 4:1-42. What did you notice about their interactions? How are CoJourney roles utilized?

### Activity #3: Jesus the Explorer asks the Amazing Question

- Read Luke 18:35-43. What caught your attention and why?
- “What would you have me do for you?” How would you respond to Jesus?
- Pair up and retell the story.

### Activity #4: Asking Good Questions

- What are some questions we can use as Explorers to discover where people are on their spiritual journey?



### Preparing

- See “[The Art of Transitioning from Explorer to Guide](#)” in Appendix.
- Practice asking good questions and listening with a partner.

### Pursuing

- Review the concept of Oikos.
- Identify 5-10 people who are not yet followers of Jesus with whom you can live the Prayer-Care-Share lifestyle. Add them to your [Oikos Network List](#).
- Identify people on your [Oikos Network List](#) to initiate a conversation with soon. Make note on your *Oikos Network List*.
- Write [Next Step Goals](#) and share them with your group. (“I will by when”)
- Don’t forget to be in touch with your accountability partner.

### Praying

- Commit everyone’s goals to the Lord. Ask the Lord to help us be faithful and use us to better understand others.

### In Your Time With God

[Read](#) or [listen](#) to Transferable Concept #9: *How to Pray*, and explore the [JesusFilm](#) app, and [Other Explorer Tools](#)



### Prayer and Care

- What are you thankful for this week?
- Prayer Requests
- How was your walk with Jesus this week?

### Celebrate Faithfulness

- What happened as you trusted God with your goals and “I will by when” statements?

### Motivation and Encouragement



### Activity #1: The Parable of the Sower

- Luke 8:4-15
  - What caught your attention and why?
  - What can we learn about God or people?
  - How can we live differently in light of this passage?
  - Pair up and retell the story.

### Activity #2: Biblical Examples of God-Prepared People

Person	How would you describe this person?	What did they do after encountering Jesus?
Samaritan woman <a href="#">John 4:1-42</a>		
Zacchaeus <a href="#">Lk 19:1-10</a>		
Diana - <a href="#">Panama</a> video		

### Summary of God-Prepared People



### Preparing

- Look at your Oikos Network List. Can you identify a [God-Prepared Person](#)?
- Review Explorer role/skills (Session 3).
- Begin praying for potential God-Prepared People and people to share the gospel with from your Oikos Network List.

### Pursuing

- Identify 3+ people on your [Oikos Network List](#) with whom you will initiate a brief conversation with as an Explorer.
- Attend the next *Becoming a CoJourney* workshop.
- Write [Next Step Goals](#) and share them with your small group. (“I will by when”)
- Connect with your accountability partner.

### Praying

- Commit everyone’s goals to the Lord. Ask the Lord to lead us to God-Prepared People.

### In Your Time With God

- Study examples of [God-Prepared People](#) and discuss with another group member: Matthew 9:9-10, Mark 5:14-20, Acts 16:13-15, Acts 16:25-34.
- [Read](#) or [listen](#) to Transferable Concept #7: *How you can Help Fulfill the Great Commission*
- The [Viral Gospel](#) by Alex Absalom is an excellent discussion of Persons of Peace.





### Prayer and Care

- What are you thankful for this week?
- Prayer Requests

### Celebrate Faithfulness

- How was your walk with Jesus this week?
- What happened as you trusted God with your goals and “I will by when” statements?

### Motivation and Encouragement



### Activity #1: The CoJourney Guide Role

- Being a guide includes:
  - Your story: 2 words before/2 words now
- Example of a Guide: Paul
  - Read: Acts 22:1-22
  - What caught your attention and why?

### Summary: Outline of Paul's story

- Life before knowing Jesus
- How he met Jesus
- Life after knowing Jesus

### Activity #2: Demonstration of a Personal Story

- What caught your attention and why?
- How does this story compare with the three components in Paul's story?



### Preparing

- Your Story in Three Phrases
- Write Your 3-Minute Story using [Tips for Writing Your Story](#) & [worksheet](#).
- Practice and Feedback (2x)

### Pursuing

- Add new people to your [Oikos Network List](#). Identify anyone you interacted with as an Explorer and who displayed characteristics of a God-Prepared Person.
- Identify 3+ people with whom you seek to act as a Guide.
- Write [Next Step Goals](#) and share them with your small group. (“I will by when”)
- Connect with your accountability partner.

### Praying

- Commit everyone's goals to the Lord. Ask the Lord to help us be faithful and use our stories to share Jesus.

### In Your Time With God

- [Read](#) or [listen](#) to Transferable Concept #4: *How to Walk in the Spirit*
- [Additional Tips for Writing and Sharing Your Testimony](#)

Directions: Using the two or three sentences in each of the sections above expand your story with three parts (we suggest using 300-500 words maximum): 1) your life before Jesus, 2) how you met Jesus with a brief explanation of the Gospel, 3) your life after meeting Jesus. Make sure to use as few religious sounding words as possible unless you explain what they mean.

**My Life Before Christ**

2 words about your life before Jesus

2 to 3 sentences about your life before Jesus - make sure you utilize your 2 words

**How I Came to Christ**

2 to 3 sentences about how you came to know Jesus

**My Life After Coming to Christ**

2 words about your life after Jesus

2 to 3 sentences about your life after coming to know Jesus - - make sure you utilize your 2 words



### Prayer and Care

- What are you thankful for this week?
- Prayer Requests

### Celebrate Faithfulness

- How was your walk with Jesus this week?
- What happened as you trusted God with your goals and “I will by when” statements?
- Share your Three Phrase Story

### Motivation and Encouragement

- My barriers:
- Modes of evangelism:



### Activity #1 What is the Gospel?

- What does a person need to know before they become a Christian?
- 1 Cor 15:1-8

### Activity #2 Gospel on a Napkin

- Watch video: [Gospel on a Napkin](#)
- What do you like about *Gospel on a Napkin*?
- Practice (see Appendix)

### When Someone Says “Yes”

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

### When Someone Is Not Ready to Say “Yes”

- [Stories of Hope](#) (see *PURSUE* in appendix)

*“Faithfulness in witnessing is simply taking the initiative to share Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit and leaving the results to God.”*  
(Bill Bright)



### Preparing

- Practice demonstrating [Gospel on a Napkin](#). This [video link](#) and [PPT](#) will help.
- Practice what to do [When someone says YES to Jesus](#) (see link), and how to begin the follow-up process.

### Pursuing

- Add new people to your [Oikos Network List](#). Identify anyone you interacted with as an Explorer and who displayed characteristics of a God-Prepared Person.
- Identify people with whom you seek to act as a Guide.
- Share [Next Step Goals](#) with your group.
- Set a time to go out witnessing with a seasoned evangelist or accountability partner using a tool you’ve learned.

### Praying

- Ask the Lord to help us be faithful in sharing the gospel effectively.

### In Your Time With God

- Explore these great tools that help us learn how to share our faith with others:
  - [GodTools](#) app
  - [Knowing God Personally](#)
  - [Honor Restored](#)
  - [The Cosmic Code](#)
  - [3 Circles: Sharing the Gospel](#)
- [Read](#) or [listen](#) to Transferable Concept #5: *How to Witness in the Spirit*



### Prayer and Care

- What are you thankful for this week?
- Prayer Requests

### Celebrate Faithfulness

- How was your walk with Jesus this week?
- What happened as you trusted God with your goals and “I will by when” statements?

### Motivation and Encouragement



### Activity #1 Paul the Builder

- Read Acts 17:16-34.
- What caught your attention and why?

- Pair-up and retell the story

### Summary

- Spiritual Bridge Elements:

### Activity #2: Identifying Common Obstacles

### Activity #3: Builder Toolset and Identifying Common Bridges

1. Prayer
2. Gentle and Loving Persuasion

Common Bridges:



### Preparing

- Download the [JesusFilm](#) app
- Practice sharing the gospel using a tool shown in Session 6.
- Review the 3 things we need to do when someone says “yes” to the gospel.

### Pursuing

- Review your [Oikos Network List](#), add people you have met, pray for them.
- Identify anyone you interacted with as an Explorer and who displayed characteristics of a God-Prepared Person.
- Identify people from your Network List with whom you seek to act as a Guide.
- Write [Next Step Goals](#) and share them with your small group. (“I will by when”)
- Touch base with your accountability partner.

### Praying

- Pray for next step goals and ask the Lord to help us be faithful and use us to start a movement of disciple-makers.

### In Your Time With God

- See Appendix: [CoJourneyer Builder's Resources](#) and [Compassion, Justice and The Gospel](#)
- Consider *Confronting Christianity: 12 Hard Questions for the World's Largest Religion* by Rebecca McLaughlin. It can be found here: [click](#).



### Prayer and Care

- What are you thankful for this week?
- Prayer Requests

### Celebrate Faithfulness

- How was your walk with Jesus this week?
- What happened as you trusted God for your goals and “I will by when” statements?

### Motivation and Encouragement



### Activity #1: 3/3 Discipleship Process and *PURSUE*

- Core parts to a discipleship meeting.
- What parts help produce multiplication?
- Review the [16 Foundational Bible Study \(FBS\) Lessons](#) covered in *PURSUE*.

### Activity #2: *PURSUE* Foundational Bible Study (FBS) #1: Assurance of Salvation

- [PURSUE's FBS #1: Assurance of Salvation](#) (John 10:22-30) (see [teaching notes](#) and [session notes](#))
- What caught your attention and why?

### Summary



### Preparing

- Practice the Looking Up section of [FBS #2: Relationship and Fellowship](#) (Luke 15:11-24) or [FBS #3: Keeping in Step with the Spirit](#) (1 Corinthians 2:14-3:3).

### Pursuing

- Add new people you have met to your [Oikos Network List](#).
- Identify people you interacted with as an Explorer and who displayed characteristics of a God-Prepared Person.
- Identify 3+ people with whom you seek to act as a Guide.
- Write [Next Step Goals](#) and share them with your small group. (“I will by when”)
- Connect with your accountability partner.

### Praying

- Commit everyone's goals to the Lord. Ask the Lord to help us be faithful and grow us as leaders.

### In Your Time With God

- [Read](#) or [listen](#) to Transferable Concept #1: *How to Be Sure You Are a Christian*
- Resources can be found online at: <https://churchmovements.com/sent67>



Facilitator, please make sure you study this document: [How to Lead a Sent 6:7 Group?](#)

## Welcome to the Group

- [Introduction & Vision](#)

## Praise

Read **Psalm 118:28** - “*You are my God and I will praise you.*”

## Care

Have each person choose one of the following for sharing about their past week:

- What are you thankful for this week?
- What difficulties did you face this week?
- What would you ask from Jesus to do for you this week?

Pray for each other's needs.

## Celebrate Faithfulness

- What are ways God has been faithful to you this past week?

## Motivation and Encouragement

Cast vision for who they can become in Christ or what God can do through them. Example: The Bible tells us God's desire is that all people are saved and come to understand the truth (1 Timothy 2:4). The gospel (the good news of Jesus) is not only for you but for all your friends and family. God loves them and will use you to pass on what you are learning about Jesus so that they can follow Jesus also. As we journey together, it will be exciting to see what God will do in the lives of those around us.

## Context

Jesus was teaching that he is the good shepherd who lays down his life for his sheep (v 11). He also said, “I know my sheep and my sheep know me,” and “I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.” However, many of the Jews didn't believe him, and doubted His claims.

## Read

- **John 10:22-30**

## Discovery Discussion

- What caught your attention and why?
- What can we learn about God or people?
- How can we live differently in light of this passage?

## Retell the Story

- Read the story again and ask someone to tell the story (retelling in our own words helps us remember and share it with others who might benefit from it). For the first lesson, have the group practice creating a bullet point outline together as a model of how to identify the main points of retelling a story.

## Summary

On the cross Jesus, the Good Shepherd, laid down his life as a sacrifice for your sins. As one of his sheep, he wants you to know that you have eternal life and you will never perish. You are safe in his hands and no one, including Satan himself, can snatch you away.

## Preparing

- Ask/Discuss: “If you were to die today, how sure are you that you'd go to heaven?” &/or “If you were standing before God and He asked, ‘Why should I let you into heaven?’ what would you say?”
- Read **1 John 5:11-13**. Give assurance that “...if you have the Son, you have (eternal) life.” {Make sure people have had the opportunity to place their faith in Jesus and gain assurance of their salvation.}

## Pursuing

For Participants:

- Who are the people from your friends, relatives, or co-workers that need to hear about Jesus? Write down their name and start praying for them.
- Perhaps this story from John 10 would be good to share with someone this week.
- Use [Next Step Goals](#) sheet and “I will by when” statements to write down your goals. Then, share your goals with the group.

## Praying

- Commit everyone's goals to the Lord. Ask the Lord to help us be faithful and use us to start a movement of disciple-makers.

## In Your Time With God

- Consider [reading](#) or [listening](#) to **Transferable Concept #1: How You Can Be Sure You Are A Christian** and discussing it with another group member.



## Praise

Read **Psalm 118:28**.

## Care

Choose one of the following to share about last week:

- What are you thankful for this week?
- What difficulties did you face this week?
- What would you ask from Jesus to do for you this week?

## Celebrate Faithfulness

- What are ways God has been faithful to you this past week?

## Motivation and Encouragement

## Context

### Read

- **John 10:22-30**

### Discovery Discussion

- What caught your attention and why?
- What can we learn about God or people?
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### Retell the Story

### Summary

On the cross Jesus, the Good Shepherd, laid down his life as a sacrifice for your sins. As one of his sheep, he wants you to know that you have eternal life and you will never perish. You are safe in his hands and no one, including Satan himself, can snatch you away.

## Preparing

- Read **1 John 5:11-13**.

## Pursuing

- Who are the people from your friends, relatives, or co-workers that need to hear about Jesus? Write down their name and start praying for them.
- Perhaps this story from John 10 would be good to share with someone this week.
- Use [Next Step Goals](#) sheet and “I will by when” statements to write down your goals. Then, share your goals with the group.

## Praying

- Commit everyone’s applications/goals to the Lord. Ask the Lord to help us be faithful to what we are learning and use us to help others.

## In Your Time With God

- Consider [reading](#) or [listening](#) to **Transferable Concept #1: How You Can Be Sure You Are A Christian** and discussing it with another group member.



## Praise

**Read Ps 48:9** - *"O Lord, we meditate on your unfailing love as we worship you."* **Read Ps 30:10-12.**

## Care

Have each person choose one of the following for sharing about their past week:

- What are you thankful for this week?
- What difficulties did you face this week?
- What would you ask from Jesus to do for you this week?

Pray for each other's needs.

## Celebrate Faithfulness

Encourage loving accountability to obey Jesus.

Ask: "What happened as you trusted God with your goals and 'I will by when' statements?"

## Motivation and Encouragement

Cast vision for who they can become in Christ or what God can do through them.

Example: When we accept Christ our lives are changed forever. 2 Corinthians 5:17 says, anyone who belongs to Christ is a new creation, the old life has gone and a new life has begun! That's us! We are new creations and as we follow Christ, our lives will continue to change to be full of purpose and meaning. Let's encourage each other with this truth as we journey together in this new life.



## Context

Those who are looked down on in society had been responding to Jesus' teaching. The religious leaders (Pharisees) and the teachers of the religious law didn't like Jesus associating with these people. So Jesus told a story about a lost son to explain God's heart towards sinners.

## Read

- **Luke 15:11-24**

## Discovery Discussion

- What caught your attention and why?
- What can we learn about God or people?
- How can we live differently in light of this passage?

## Retell the Story

- Read the story again and ask someone to tell the story (retelling in our own words helps us remember and share it with others who might benefit from it).

## Summary

Our heavenly Father is willing to forgive the sins of His children. Our sin does not change the fact that God is our Father. But sin does have consequences and it does affect our fellowship with God. **1 John 1:9** assures us, "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all wickedness."



## Preparing

- Continue to pray for those you know that do not yet know Jesus.
- Introduce the concept of Oikos Network Mapping - watch the [video](#) and use ["Introducing Oikos to your Pursue Group...."](#). (NOTE: teaching it will take 10 minutes.)
- Download [GodTools App](#)

## Pursuing

For Participants:

- Create your own [Oikos Network List](#) by writing down the names of those with whom you can begin to pray for, show care to, and eventually share about Jesus.
- Write "I will by when" statements on your [Next Step Goals](#) sheet and share with your group.

## Praying

- Commit everyone's applications/goals to the Lord. Ask the Lord to help us be faithful to what we are learning and use us to help others.

## In Your Time With God

- Consider [reading](#) or [listening](#) to **Transferable Concept #2: How You Can Experience God's Love and Forgiveness** and discussing it with another group member.





## Praise

Read **Psalm 48:9** and **Psalm 30:10-12**.

## Care

Choose one of the following to share about last week:

- What are you thankful for this week?
- What difficulties did you face this week?
- What would you ask from Jesus to do for you this week?

## Celebrate Faithfulness

- What happened as you trusted God with your goals and “*I will by when*” statements?

## Motivation and Encouragement



## Context

### Read

- **Luke 15:11-24**

### Discovery Discussion

- What caught your attention and why?
- What can we learn about God or people?
- How can we live differently in light of this passage?

### Retell the Story

### Summary

Our heavenly Father is willing to forgive the sins of His children. Our sin does not change the fact that God is our Father. But sin does have consequences and it does affect our fellowship with God. **1 John 1:9** assures us, “If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all wickedness.”



## Preparing

- Continue to pray for those you know that do not yet know Jesus.
- Understanding Oikos Network Mapping - watch the [video](#).
- Download [GodTools App](#)

## Pursuing

- Create your own [Oikos Network List](#) by writing down the names of those with whom you can begin to pray for, show care to, and eventually share about Jesus.
- Write “I will by when” statements on your [Next Step Goals](#) sheet and share with your group.

## Praying

- Commit everyone’s applications/goals to the Lord. Ask the Lord to help us be faithful to what we are learning and use us to help others.

## In Your Time With God

- Consider [reading](#) or [listening](#) to **Transferable Concept #2: How You Can Experience God’s Love and Forgiveness** and discussing it with another group member.



## Praise

- **Read Psalm 66:4** - “Everything on earth will worship you; they will sing your praises . . . in glorious songs.”

## Care

Have each person choose one of the following for sharing about their past week:

- What are you thankful for this week?
- What difficulties did you face this week?
- What would you ask from Jesus to do for you this week?

Pray for each other's needs.

## Celebrate Faithfulness

- What are you celebrating in terms of mission? (NOTE: ‘mission’ is the idea of learning to think in a [prayer-care-share mindset](#) as we relate to those who need Jesus. In the preface) Facilitator, see Appendix article.
- Encourage loving accountability to obey Jesus. Ask: “What happened as you trusted God with your goals and ‘I will by when’ statements?”

## Motivation and Encouragement

One day a woman went to visit her neighbor. As they were talking she shared the gospel with her neighbor and she placed her faith in Christ. But then the woman started crying. “My husband just died 2 weeks ago. Why didn’t you tell me this sooner?” You see, we never know when people’s last day will be. That’s why we must share the gospel when we have the chance.

## Context

When we place our faith in Jesus, God’s Spirit begins to live inside of us. He is called the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of Truth and our Helper. His ministry in our lives is so important that we will take time to study our relationship with Him.

## Read

- **1 Corinthians 2:14-3:3**

## Discovery Discussion

- What caught your attention and why?
- What can we learn about God or people?
- How can we live differently in light of this passage?

## Retell the Story

- Read the story again and ask someone to tell the story.

## Summary

Though all Christians have the Spirit living in them, not all Christians are directed and empowered by the Spirit. When we trust in our own efforts or take control of our lives, the Bible calls us carnal and we don’t experience an abundant or fruitful life. Read **Galatians 5:22-24**. We can use 3 circles to help us remember the 3 types of people described in 1 Corinthians (draw the 3 circles). See [Satisfied?](#) booklet, page 7 for 3 circles diagram.

## Preparing

- Highlight who the Holy Spirit is from the [Satisfied?](#) Booklet or [GodTools App](#).
- Teach the Spiritual Breathing principle
  - **Exhale** – 1 John 1:9 confess our sins, agree to change our attitude or actions
  - **Inhale** – surrender control of your life to Christ
- Let’s ask God to fill and empower us with the Holy Spirit: *Father, I need you. I acknowledge that I have been in control of my life; and that I have sinned against you. Thank you for forgiving my sins through Christ’s death on the cross. I invite you to take control of my life and fill me with your Holy Spirit. I pray this in the name of Jesus as an expression of my faith. Thank you for taking control of my life and filling me with your Holy Spirit.* (refer to page 12 of [Satisfied?](#) booklet)
- Practice drawing the 3 circles and teaching the Spiritual Breathing principle.

## Pursuing

For Participants:

- Who might you initiate with to share what you have learned about the Holy Spirit or share about Jesus?
- Write “[I will by when](#)” statements and tell them to your small group.

## Praying

- Commit everyone’s goals to the Lord.

## In Your Time With God

- Consider [reading](#) or [listening](#) to **Transferable Concept #3: How you can be filled with the Holy Spirit** and discussing it with another group member.



## Praise

Read **Psalm 66:4**.

## Care

Choose one of the following to share about last week:

- What are you thankful for this week?
- What difficulties did you face this week?
- What would you ask from Jesus to do for you this week?

## Celebrate Faithfulness

- What are you celebrating in terms of mission?
- What happened as you trusted God with your goals and “*I will by when*” statements?

## Motivation and Encouragement



## Context

### Read

- **1 Corinthians 2:14-3:3**

### Discovery Discussion

- What caught your attention and why?
- What can we learn about God or people?
- How can we live differently in light of this passage?

## Retell the Story

### Summary

Though all Christians have the Spirit living in them, not all Christians are directed and empowered by the Spirit. When we trust in our own efforts or take control of our lives, the Bible calls us carnal and we don't experience an abundant or fruitful life. Read **Galatians 5:22-24**. We can use 3 circles to help us remember the 3 types of people described in 1 Corinthians (draw the 3 circles). See [Satisfied?](#) booklet, page 7 for 3 circles diagram.



## Preparing

- Go through the [Satisfied?](#) booklet. (It is also in the [GodTools App](#))
- **The Spiritual Breathing principle**
  - Exhale – 1 John 1:9 confess our sins, agree to change our attitude or actions
  - Inhale – surrender control of your life to Christ
- Let's ask God to fill and empower us with the Holy Spirit. (See page 12 of *Satisfied?* booklet)
- Practice drawing the 3 circles and teaching the Spiritual Breathing principle.

## Pursuing

- Who might you initiate with to share what you have learned about the Holy Spirit or share about Jesus?
- Write “*I will by when*” statements and tell them to your small group.

## Praying

- Commit everyone's applications/goals to the Lord. Ask the Lord to help us be faithful to what we are learning and use us to help others.

## In Your Time With God

- Consider [reading](#) or [listening](#) to **Transferable Concept #3: How you can be filled with the Holy Spirit** and discussing it with another group member.



### Prayer and Care

- What are you thankful for this week?

- Prayer Requests

### Celebrate Faithfulness

- How was your walk with Jesus this week?
- What happened as you trusted God for your goals and “I will by when” statements?

### Motivation and Encouragement



### Activity #1: Who is My Neighbor?

- Read Luke 10:25-37
- What caught your attention and why?

- Pair-up and retell the story
- Who is your neighbor?

### Activity #2 Art of Neighboring (Video)

- What caught your attention and why?

- Potential new habits/patterns:

- B -
- L -
- E -
- S -
- S -

### Activity #3: Neighboring Ideas Far & Near

- *Art of Neighboring*
  - [Block Party Kit](#)
  - [COVID-19 Neighboring Toolkit](#)
- [Hosting Christmas Gatherings \(from FamilyLife\)](#)
- [Bless Every Home](#)



### Preparing

- Begin planning a Neighboring Event.

- Use the [Art of Neighboring Event Resource](#) in the Appendix to create a strategy with others.

### Pursuing

- Review your [Oikos Network List](#) and add new people they have met.
- Identify any people you interacted with as an Explorer or Builder who displayed characteristics of a God-Prepared Person.
- Share [Next Step Goals](#) with your small group. (“I will by when”)
- Connect with your accountability partner. You may want to go together to meet with any new believers for starting a Foundational Bible Study. Evaluate the study time with each other.
- Reflect on what to share and celebrate at our next meeting.

### Praying

- Commit everyone’s goals to the Lord. Ask the Lord to help us be faithful and show love and care to our neighbors.



### Prayer and Care

- How was your walk with Jesus this week?
- Prayer Requests

### Celebrate Faithfulness

- What happened as you trusted God for your goals and “I will by when” statements.

### Motivation and Encouragement



### Activity #1: Sharing Highlights

### Activity #2: Recognition and Celebration

### Activity #3: What's Next?

- Re-watch video: [\*This is Discipling\*](#) – [\*This is Church\*](#)
- What caught your attention and why?
- What was different about watching it again this time?
- Next Steps meeting info:



### Preparing

- Review skills learned in previous lessons. What needs more practice?

- All the resources can be found: <https://churchmovements.com/sent67/>

### Pursuing

- Identify someone you will take the initiative to minister to this week.
- Write [\*Next Step Goals\*](#) and share them with your small group. (“I will by when”)
- Touch base with your accountability partner.
- Watch: [\*NLCC in KC Sent 6:7\*](#)

### Praying

- Commit everyone's goals to the Lord. Ask the Lord to help us be faithful and use us to start a movement of disciple-makers.

# APPENDIX

## launch

1. [Glossary of Terms](#)
2. [The U.S. as a New Mission Field](#) (\*)
3. [Four Fields Card](#)
4. [How You Can Experience God's Love and Forgiveness](#) (\*)
5. [Satisfied? Booklet](#) (\*)
6. [How to Be Filled with the Holy Spirit](#) (\*)
7. [The Art of Transitioning from Explorer to Guide](#)
8. [Compassion, Justice and The Gospel \(Developing a Heart for Evangelism\)](#)
9. [How You Can Pray with Confidence](#) (\*)
10. [Explorer Tools](#)
11. [God-Prepared People](#)
12. [Help Fulfill the Great Commission](#) (\*)
13. [Tips for Writing Your Story/Testimony](#)
14. [How to Walk in the Spirit](#) (\*)
15. [Gospel on a Napkin](#)
16. [When Someone Says Yes to Jesus](#)
17. [Knowing God Personally](#) (\*)
18. [How to Witness in the Spirit](#) (\*)
19. [CoJourney Builder's Resources](#)
20. [Pursue: 16 Foundational Bible Studies](#)
21. [How to Be Sure You Are a Christian](#) (\*)
22. [Art of Neighboring Event Resource](#)
23. [COVID-19 Neighboring Toolkit](#) (\*)
24. [Sent 6:7 Launch Certificate Template](#)
25. [Next Step Goals](#)
26. [Oikos Network List](#)

(\*) Some of the above links are not printed in the *LAUNCH* pdf format. Go to link directly to read online or print if necessary.



# Glossary of Terms

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**APEST** simply refers to the leadership gifts God has given to the church to help us become mature in Christ. A - Apostles focus on unreached people groups, frontiers that need the gospel and the church to thrive; P - Prophets focus on those blind to God's glory and righteousness; E - Evangelists focus on the lost; S - Shepherds want people to be provided for and for all to have a caring, holistic community; T - Teachers focus on teaching the Body of Christ to become rooted, growing, and trained in the Word. (See Ephesians 4:11-13)

**Baptism** (FBS#4): sprinkling water onto a person's forehead or immersion in water, symbolizing purification or new life. Being baptized shows others He changed our lives and symbolizes our identification with the death and resurrection of Jesus (Romans 6:4-5); it affirms that God will/has save(d) us by His grace through the death and resurrection of Jesus.

**The Bible:** All of Scripture revolves around Jesus Christ (66 Books)

- The Old Testament – the 37 books in the Hebrew Bible – reveals God's plan for creating and relating to humans. It reveals the struggle humanity has had knowing God, believing God, being in relationship with God, and how God planned to restore what has been broken.
- The 29 books and letters in the New Testament reveal God's plan to enter into our broken world in the most humble of ways to bring us back into a good relationship with Him. It reveals the depth of God's love and the extent of suffering He was willing to go through to restore humans to a close, peaceful, loving relationship.

**Confession:** agreeing with God about your sin. In prayer, we first agree with God that we have sinned. Second, we agree with God that Christ's death paid for that specific sin. And last, we agree with God to turn away from that sin and ask Him to empower us to do so (this is called repentance).

**Fellowship** (FBS#2): the experience of life in relationship with God and His community - the church

**Giving** (FBS#13) Dedicating or offering something or oneself to others or to God. Scripture stresses the importance of giving. The generosity and love of God in giving his only Son to die for his people is understood to lead to an obligation, on their part, to love God and others in return. Giving manifested in various forms in Scripture, most commonly is through honoring God from our financial resources by giving back to Him supporting His Kingdom's cause and helping the needy. God commands His people to express their faith and thanksgiving by tithing and giving special offerings.

**God-Prepared People** (FBS#9): Each of these individuals becomes a believer and multiplies. They represent a profile of the Fourth-Soil Person mentioned in the Parable of the Sower. According to the Parable of the Sower, a Fourth-Soil Person includes the following: believes the gospel, perseveres, and makes new disciples.

**Gospel:** the good news of Jesus. The main points of the gospel are 1). God loves you and created you to know Him personally 2). All have sinned, and our sin separates us from God 3). Jesus Christ is God's only provision for our sin. Through Him, we can know and experience God's love and plan for our lives 4). We must individually receive Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord by faith; then we can know and experience God's love and plan for our lives.

**Holy Spirit** (FBS#3): God is three distinct persons who are one in substance. God is unique in this way. The Holy Spirit lives in perfect unity with the Father and the Son. He is God. The Holy Spirit equips people for ministry, gives people specific insight and wisdom, teaches people how to interpret God's Word, communicates with the Father on people's behalf, and empowers Christians to live according to God's design.

## **Jesus**

Who is Jesus?

- Many say He was a "good teacher". Most historians believe He existed. Eyewitness accounts, seen by 500 after His resurrection. New Testament letters were written to record what happened, what He taught, what He did to heal and feed thousands. He revealed to humans His true nature as a loving, compassionate, humble God who allowed Himself to be crucified to take the sins of the world upon Himself. He is forgiving, extending to all who believe in Him the free gift of grace and eternal life. Many found it hard to believe that a man could be God and rejected Him and His teachings. And this despite the many miracles He performed, as recorded in the New Testament. But He was more than a mere man, and He took on flesh to relate to us and to take our place on the cross. This event was so real that thousands of people believed He was the Son of God and placed their faith in Him. In the face of persecution, many died believing what they knew to be true. Who would die for a lie?

Why did Jesus need to die?

- He chose willingly to die so that humans could be restored to a right relationship with the one true God who created us. Jesus became the bridge between us and our imperfections (our sin and lack of real love toward God and our fellow humans) to lead us back into fellowship with a morally perfect and just God Creator.



### **Lord's Supper**, also called **Communion**:

- Key Passage: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26
- The Gospel is revealed in Communion, as it demonstrates His love for us in while we were yet sinners Christ died for us; that none are righteous, not one; all are guilty, will be judged & need forgiveness; that in His sovereign mercy "through faith in Christ, His righteousness becomes our righteousness and all that he has becomes ours."
- It represents the sign and seal of the covenant of grace
  - **SIGN**, meaning that the physical elements POINT to/SHOW us something – it points to the person and work of Christ and His presence in our midst (not in the bread, but here spiritually here, with us!) In the Bread we see Christ as the Bread come down from heaven, the perfect God-man, God's gift to solve our sin problem. 1 Pe 2:24: "*He himself bore our sins in His body on the cross*" In the Cup (juice of the vine) we see Christ as the Lamb of God who came as the God-man to die and shed His blood to forgive us of our sins (Heb 9:22).
  - **SEAL** meaning that we know Jesus' death secured our salvation, bought our peace with God because He rose from the dead. So today at this table we rejoice in the GUARANTEE His blood gives us.
- In taking communion we affirm by faith we are forgiven be/c of Jesus' love, mercy and death. We agree with God at this table that the new covenant states that mankind "is not justified by the works of the Law but through faith in Christ Jesus" (Gal 2:16). It is a time to: a. REMEMBER / REFLECT on his death...his sacrifice b. WORSHIP in fear/With unhurried thought RENEW our love, respect, devotion. All should be reminded to declare Him as Lord, to repent of sin, and to covenant once more to live as followers of Jesus in the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Neighbor:** In the parable of the Good Samaritan in Luke 10, Jesus shows we are to love like He did, everyone - both near and far from us culturally. It's more about being a neighbor like the Good Samaritan, expressing the love of Jesus to all He created - people everywhere.

**Oikos:** the Greek word best translated "household." Because households in the NT context were normally much larger than just a nuclear family, the term can well be applied as "extended family", "people with whom you do life" or "circle of influence."

**Person of Peace and God-Prepared Person are explained [here](#).**

**Prayer** (FBS#6): is talking with God. It is an opportunity to express to the Lord what is on our heart and mind, to seek wisdom and guidance, and to ask for needs to be met. It is also a way to express our praise and adoration of who He is. It includes our asking on behalf of others and praying for what is on God's heart, as well as for His will to be done. Finally, prayer is one way we express our dependence on Him.

**Prayer Care Share Lifestyle:** At its heart, the PCS lifestyle is a gospel lifestyle of demonstrating the gospel by loving our neighbors (**care**) combined with the

proclamation of the gospel as the Lord gives opportunity (**share**), all undergirded by **prayer**.

**Sin:** anything that is contrary to the will of God. Sin, as defined in the original translations of the Bible, means "to miss the mark." The mark, in this case, is the standard of perfect conformity to the laws established by God and evidenced by Jesus. Mankind was created to have fellowship with God; but, because of our own stubborn self-will, we chose to go our own independent way and fellowship with God was broken. This self-will, characterized by an attitude of active rebellion or passive indifference, is evidence of what the Bible calls sin.

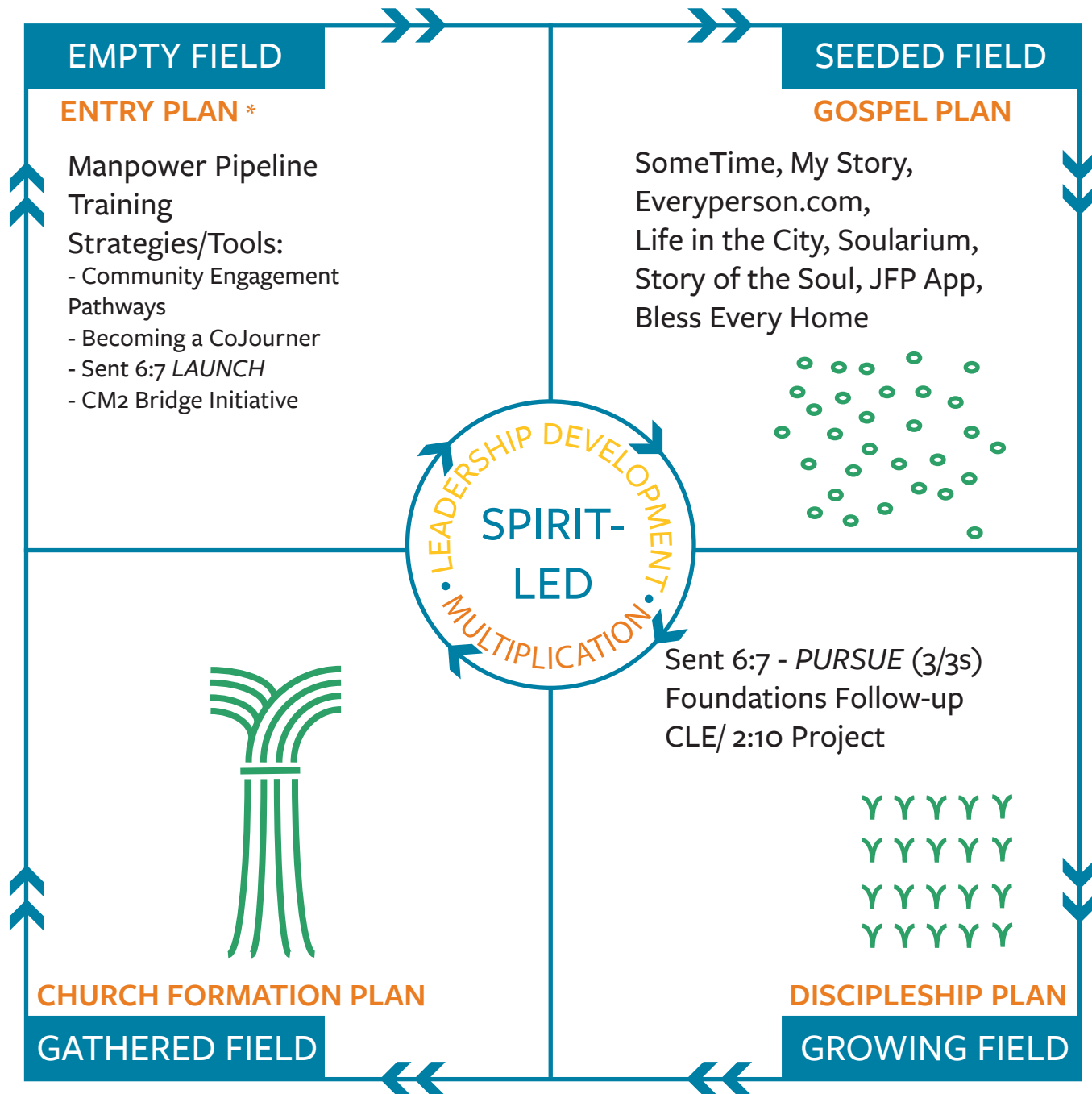
**SomeTime** (FBS#12): is an experience dedicated to exploring the back-stories of our friends. During this experience, you will be asking friends, *"Sometime, I'd like to hear about your spiritual journey... would you be up for that?"*

**Story of the Soul** (FBS#12): an interactive, coffeehouse experience. Using art, film, music, poetry and other media, we explore the stories the soul of mankind is and has always been telling. Each event centers around a universal theme that seeks to answer common questions every human soul wrestles with. Through guided discussions around film clips, songs, poetry and art, we discover how our wounds can be healed and how our longings can be satisfied through the Gospel.

**Testimony** (FBS#10): the story about how you came to have a personal relationship with God and how He has changed your life.

**Witness** (FBS#11): a witness is someone who moves toward people and creates opportunities to talk about Jesus in a wise, clear, direct, and gracious way . Witnessing is simply taking the initiative to share Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit and leaving the results to God.

**Worship** (FBS#13): individual or corporate expression of reverence and adoration for God



# THE ART OF TRANSITIONING FROM EXPLORER TO GUIDE

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(conversation starters and real-life examples of spiritual conversations)

## Questions to get us started

Conversations are not so difficult once the ice is broken and someone initiates – but initiation is the hard part. God’s Word tells us several times to “be ready” to represent our Lord wherever we find ourselves. Preparing questions to ask in our relationship networks is wise. Let’s take some time to prepare some questions for the people we see on a regular basis. There are just a few questions here to help get you started. Follow up questions are much easier, or just ask “why”?

After you have asked several questions, (maybe several conversations down the road), one of the best ways to bring up spiritual things is to share your personal story of what God has done in your life. You might have time for only a 30 second version, or you might have time for a longer version, be prepared for both.

## Questions for neighbors

- Observation questions are great, what do you notice about their house, family, pets? “Good morning, I noticed some new flowers, where did you get them?”
- Does your family need anything?
- How are you doing during Covid?
- How’s your family doing education during Covid? What resources are you using?
- Want to come over for dessert tomorrow evening?
- Would you like to come over for coffee tonight?
- It’s a great night for a walk
- Do you or your family play any sports?
- Have you found a great place for hiking?
- Could I borrow a shovel? Screwdriver? Drill? Etc....
- How did you find those flowers? Remodeler? Roofer? Playset?

## Questions for coworkers

- Would you like to grab lunch this afternoon?
- Can I get you anything from the store?
- How’s your family doing during this Covid thing?
- Does your family have any plans for \_\_\_\_\_ break?
- How do you get your work done from home? How do you manage the interruptions?
- Where are you going on vacation?

## Questions for friends (you already have a relationship with friend, so you can be more direct)

- What are you doing this weekend?
- When can we see each other again?
- How are you handling the relationship with your wife, husband, kids, in-laws?
- Can we meet for lunch / coffee – I really need to tell you something
- Tell me what happened? I am so sorry.
- Can I share with you how I was able to deal with such a hard situation?
- Invite them over for coffee, dinner, firepit, etc...
- Share an [EveryPerson.com](https://www.everyperson.com) article that relates to a situation you are discussing

## Questions for family (family relationships can be both very friendly and easy or very difficult, you will know how far you can go in each unique situation)

- I'd love to see you again, can we get together next week sometime?
- Ask about their jobs, families, schools,
- Bring up a personal experience you have had at work or play. Why was that fun or difficult?
- Empathize with them over something hard going on in their lives
- Share something you have learned in life that you did not know
- Share something from church that you heard or experienced that has helped you. Could it be helpful to your family too?

## Conversation Starter Examples

If you are asked: "What do you do?" you can say something like this:

- "My day job is working for a software company, but one of the most satisfying things I do is engage with people about their spiritual journey. I volunteer with a website that deals with difficult questions of life" – and then you can give them the "Everyperson.com" card.
- "I am involved in a community of people (a faith-based non-profit) that helps with problems in our community (you can list some things your church or organization does to serve your community, homelessness, food insecurity, human trafficking, fatherlessness, 3rd grade reading levels in under-performing schools). Meaningful relationships, changed lives, and giving people an opportunity to make a difference is important to us."

Depending on the circumstances, you could continue with these questions or weave them into the conversation:

- "Do you think much about these issues?"
- "What gives you hope when you face the challenges of life?"
- "What is your biggest fear?"
- "Do you think about spiritual things much?"
- "What words would you use to describe your life spiritually?"
- "What was your religious background as a child?"
- "If you could know God personally would you be interested?"

- “Why do you think people believe in God, go to church, pray? Are any of these things important to you?”
- “Has anyone ever simply described what a Christian is or isn’t? Could I share my perspective with you?”
- “If Jesus were standing before you and would ask this question, ‘What do you want me to do for you?’, what would your answer be?”
- “Sometime, I would like to hear about your spiritual journey. Would you be up for that?”

If you are asked during the conversation: “How did you get involved in these kinds of things?”

- Answer (contextualize your answer to fit your story) Here’s my example: “Spiritual things didn’t interest me very much earlier in my life. Then about (# of years ago) my perspective completely changed.” (Stop, don’t just keep talking, see if they are interested. Perhaps they’ll ask another question.)

If you are asked: “What brought the change?”

- Answer: (Share a line from your story). I used to be an atheist. // I was challenged by (“this book” “this person”, “meeting these people,” “hearing this”) to really pursue the concept of truth. // I met some people that broke my paradigm. // I read some things that changed my mind. // I discovered my concept of God was completely wrong.

If someone says: “I’m a good person. I grew up in the church. I even pray sometimes.”

- Answer this: “If you would arrive at Heaven’s gate (let’s say), and God would ask you ‘Why would I let you in?’, what would your answer be?”

## Real-Life Conversations:

**Visiting the home of a friend who is Muslim,** I noticed some framed Arabic calligraphy in their living room:

Me: “That is a beautiful piece of art! Do you mind if I ask, what does it mean?”

Friend: “Oh, those are the ninety-nine names of Allah!”

Me: “That sounds like a great thing to be reminded of. Do you have a favorite?”

Friend: “There’s ‘Giver of Peace,’ ‘The Almighty,’ ‘The Creator’... But I guess my favorite would be ‘Allah Ar-Rahman.’ We say it every time we pray. It means God is all-merciful.”

Me: “That’s beautiful! We call God merciful and compassionate as well. How have you experienced God’s mercy?”

Friend: “Every day I wake up is a gift from Allah.”

Me: “Agreed. I have also specifically experienced God’s mercy through my relationship with Jesus and having my sins forgiven by him. Do you know what Christians believe about that?”

**Waiting to pick up a pizza, the cashier had a tattoo of praying hands holding a rosary.**

Me: “Great tattoo. That’s good work!”

Pizza guy: “Oh thanks, yeah I’ve had it for a couple years and I’m saving up for some more.”

Me: “Do you pray, then?”

Pizza guy: “I try to... it’s actually my abuela’s hands on here, because I know she prays for me. But you know, she hates that I got ink.”

Me: “Sounds like she’s kind of a big spiritual influence on you.”

Pizza guy: “Definitely. God listens to someone like her... not like me. I’ve done too much crazy stuff to be on his good side!”

Me: "You know, the Bible says that we can go to God's throne with confidence, because Christ is our representative, like our advocate. When we know we dishonored God, Christ still gives us his good name to go straight to God and ask him for forgiveness."

Pizza guy: "I never thought about it like that!"

Me: "Hey, I'm in the neighborhood and you know I'm here a lot. Sometime maybe I could hear more of your story!"

**In a fast food restaurant** – asking a person, if I could sit at his table, due to lack of space...

After a few minutes of conversation, I asked:

Me: "What you do?"

Him: "I'm an IT guy. What about you?"

Me: "I'm helping young people find their value and purpose and show how to build lasting relationships. One thing I focus on is helping to build their emotional intelligence."

Him: "Hm... very interesting."

Me: "Yeah, it is. Do you mind if I ask you a question that I ask from these kids, too?"

Him: "Yes."

Me: "What is your biggest fear?"

Him: "Losing my kids."

Me: "Oh, man, I can understand that, I have three kids."

Him: "I have one."

Me: "What works for you to overcome your fear?"

Him: "I pray or go to a mass."

Me: "Oh, are you a Catholic?"

Him: "Yes."

Me: "Do you mind if I ask another question?"

Him: "Go ahead."

Me: "Let's say you die and go to Heaven's gate. Saint Peter will be standing there and asks you this question, 'Why would I let you in?' ... What would your answer?"

Him: "I've prayed and tried to be good."

Me: "What if your best is not good enough?"

(You could weave in, "As I understand the Bible, that's not going to be good enough for either of us" and go on to share your personal story.)

**A soldier on a plane:**

Me: Thank you for serving our country. How often do you have a chance to go home?

Soldier: Every 6 months.

Me: What's the most difficult thing about serving in the military?

Soldier: Being away from my wife and kids.

Me: Wow, that's a huge sacrifice! How do you cope with that?

Soldier: It's hard, very hard, it can be very lonely.

Me: There were times in my life when I really struggled with loneliness. It took a while to overcome that pressing emptiness in my soul. What helps you to overcome that feeling?

Soldier: I try to keep myself busy. What helped you to deal with it?

Me: There was a time when my father left me and I completely felt betrayed and lonely... (from this I shared part of my personal story).

**A guy was in my house fixing my computer. When he was done, we had this conversation:**

Me: "I noticed that you're wearing a Saint Christopher medal."

Computer Guy: "Oh yeah, I have to. I travel so much."

Me: "Yeah, I understand that. Could I recommend to you that maybe you go over the head of St. Christopher to someone higher up, to God? Because God cares about you. He also wants to help you, and to guide your life, and take care of you. Maybe no one has ever shared with you how you could have this kind of relationship with God. May I give you this card? It has a website that will explain how you can know God in this way." (I gave him a business card with EveryPerson.com on it.)

Computer Guy: "Wow. Thanks so much. I will definitely look at this tonight. That's so kind of you. I will definitely look at this. Thanks again."

**On a flight**, the girl next to me opened an enormous, hardbound book of Horoscopes. She took the book, nearly put it in my lap, and started this conversation:

Astrology Girl: "Which sign are you?"

Me: "Well, I'm a cancer." (She immediately flipped to that page and we started reading together.)

Me: "Ok, yes this is true of me, and this, and this. Oh gee, not this one at all. You know, here's the thing about this. Some of this fits me and some doesn't. But when it comes to my life, I want something I can fully count on, all the time. I've concluded that God exists, and that he knows me completely, because he created me. He knows everything that's true about me. And even better, he offers to guide me in life. He offers to guide anyone who will begin a relationship with him. He gives insights and his wisdom for some major areas of our lives. AND he's fully reliable. Here's a website that explains how you can have a relationship with God like that." I write down, EveryPerson.com.

Astrology Girl: "Thanks very much. I really appreciate that. I'll take a look at it."

**At a hotel that had a fire drill**. I'm standing outside the front door of the hotel with a group of people and this woman asks me:

Convention Woman: "Are you with our convention?"

Me: "No. I'm with a website that takes on the hard questions about life and God...like why life is so hard, evidences for God's existence."

Convention Woman: "I'm an atheist, but I'm searching."

Me: "Well, you will LOVE this website. It gives you reasons to believe in God and shows you how you can begin a relationship with him. Let me give you a card to it."

Convention Woman: "Thank you so much!"

**On a flight**. The man next to me asked:

A man on flight: "What do you do?"

Me: "I'm with a website that takes on the hard questions about life and God...like why life is so hard, evidences for God's existence."

A man on flight: "I have a friend who's been trying to get me saved for two years."

Me: "What's your hesitation?"

We talked for two hours. I heard all of his concerns. He asked me how his life would change if he did ask Jesus into his life. He had questions about Jesus' deity, the Bible, what it meant to be in relationship with God, etc. At the end of the flight I said:

Me: "You can't ask Jesus into your life just because your friend wants you to. You need to know it's true. You need to really get your questions about God answered. Here's a card to a website that will fully give you reasons to ask Jesus into your life. Spend some time on it and make a decision."

A Man on flight: "Thanks. I will."

**Another man on a flight:**



2nd man on flight: "Hi. What kind of work are you in?"

Me: "I'm with a website that takes on the hard questions about life and God...like why life is so hard, evidences for God's existence."

2nd man on flight: "Hm...how did you get into that?"

Me: "I was an atheist. I met a Christian whose life I admired. For 1.5 years I asked her questions. The evidence she provided outweighed the evidence against God. I asked God into my life and he changed my life." [My testimony in 17 seconds]

2nd man on flight: "I'm an atheist. What convinced you?"

Me: "Mostly it was the earth's position to the sun and the properties of water. They were too precise to be just chance."

At the end of the flight I gave him a card to EveryPerson.com. And I wrote on the back of it, "The Spiritual Adventure Pack" – a series of 7 emails written specifically to atheists/skeptics. He was very appreciative.

**Taxi driver:**

Taxi driver: "It's really hard to find riders now. Uber has really cut into our business, and I worry about my family."

Me: "I can imagine. I bet that's scary. You know, when I've been worried about the future, I find that God is able to guide me and take care of me. I'm wondering if anyone has ever shared with you how you can know God like that. May I give you a card to a website that will explain how you can go to God and know that he hears you?"

Taxi driver: "Thank you so much. That is so kind of you."

# Compassion, Justice and The Gospel

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*why gospel conversations are needed for the well-being of our cities!*

Many churches and gospel city movements are tackling urban issues with prayer and well-being initiatives (reading tutors for at-risk children, creating jobs, rescuing women from sex-slavery, creating new families from foster care to adoption). Yet, an increasing number of leaders have seen the need to bring good and effective evangelism thought, tools and motivation into city movements. There is a need to engage in polite, wise, conversational evangelism while we rub shoulders with others who pursue well-being issues with us. Our gospel city movements must be faithful to both good works and good news, between showing and telling the gospel.

As our culture becomes distant from its Judeo-Christian roots, old forms of evangelism can create an obstacle to the gospel. We should be aware that most of our information seems irrelevant to a postmodern-background non-believer. And, sadly, too many Christians have lost their vision to share the Gospel for fear of being labeled narrow-minded and out-of-date.

If evangelism is to play the major role that Jesus has assigned it to play, we will have to, as leaders, pay attention to these things: 1) Motivation; 2) Equipping people to be confident; 3) Sensitivity to the cultural realities of our day; 4) Having tools that help people find and know Jesus.

Words and concepts that center and motivate gospel movements today are words like: well-being, unity, justice and compassion. As I've studied these words in the Bible, new motivation has revived me. I've been aligned & corrected as well.

Let's look at two passages. The first has to do with the works and compassion of Jesus. John 2:11 and John 20:30, 31 are bookends. They suggest that signs – miracles and all works of compassion, love, justice and ministry in general – done in the name of Jesus Christ are for three purposes: 1) To show the splendor of Jesus, 2) That others "may believe Jesus is the Christ, the son of God" and 3) That, in "believing, all might find life in His name." The life and well-being we seek for all in our cities hinges on their relationship to the Gospel, and on us both telling and demonstrating the Gospel in everything we do.

The end of all prayers, works and aims is that others may know Jesus intimately and follow Him in glad surrender! So, in compassionate ministry we are to manifest something about Jesus. In other words; we lift Jesus up and share how He changed us – we openly share His Gospel.

The second passage has to do with justice. In Jeremiah, God exhorts us to execute justice very strongly. Here are some examples: Jer 21:12: "O house of David, thus says the Lord: 'Administer justice every morning; And deliver the person who has been robbed from the power of his oppressor, that My wrath may not go forth like fire and burn with none to extinguish it, because of the evil of their deeds.'" Jer 22:3: "Thus says the Lord, 'Do justice and righteousness, and deliver the one who has been robbed from the power of his oppressor...'"

Justice here seems to be the protection of the weaker members of society from oppression by those more powerful. These are strong words against oppressing the weak and marginalized. Certainly I have never felt like an oppressor, but Jeremiah brings a heightened look at what it means to oppress.

An oppressor is anyone who exercises their power in either a cruel or neglectful way – causing people around them to be pushed down or remain down, preventing them from a life that flourishes.

Justice in this case implies that those entrusted with resources and means must protect the weak and marginalized from wrong, delivering them from whoever or whatever oppresses them.

As followers of Christ, we are people of resources and means. We have the Holy Spirit inside us. We've been seated with Christ in the heavens and entrusted with the Gospel. It is incumbent upon us to engage all marginalized, including those bound and blinded by Satan and under the wrath of God, not yet set free from sin and shame by the Gospel. If Satan is the greatest oppressor, we are bound to set people free with the truth of the Gospel. See John 8:31-47.

There are millions of people in our cities that walk in shame, experience the pain of rejection, have no hope and feel unloved. They don't know how much their Creator loves them and what God has done for them to forgive, relieve and restore them. They don't know the life of peace, fullness and community that Jesus died to give them.

The greatest injustice ever known to mankind will be when the Church was reticent to share the Gospel and work to transfer people out of darkness, idolatry and bondage to a spiritual enemy.

We must extend the ministry of Jesus to all in the city – that all be made new, being changed by Jesus, and that life in the city would be renewed! By His grace and in the power of His Spirit we advance His mission: to preach the gospel, to mend the brokenhearted, to comfort those who mourn and renew cities (see Isaiah 61:1-11). Jesus quoted from this passage in His first sermon (see Luke 4:14-18). By turning to this passage, Jesus shows us what is at the heart of His ministry. It's as though this passage in Isaiah reveals the job description of the Messiah. In studying it we come to one key conclusion: Jesus wants to radically change people from head to toe. Look at Isaiah 61:1-4.

In Old Testament society, when grief was unbearable, people threw ashes on their heads. Jesus wants to replace dark ashes with jewels; to adorn us with a crown of beauty! Oils were poured all over the body on special occasions. The oil of gladness reflects a good mood (Ps 45:7) – and it was forbidden to be used in times of public grief (see 2 Samuel 14:2). Clothes that expressed joy replaced the heavy burden of a depressed soul. This picture shows that when Jesus changes a life, everything changes!

The job of an ambassador of Christ is to show the world the Savior, and that His ways and truth help us discover a better way to live. Let's be reminded as the Body of Christ that we are His temple, the actual presence of God in this world, to let Jesus minister through us, as He did while on earth Himself – and be His ambassadors and witnesses (2 Corinthians 5:18-21, Acts 1:8, John 15:26, 27).

Our prayer is that the following Bible study will help renew your motivation for the proclamation side of the mission of Jesus.

# Compassion, Justice and The Gospel

## *Developing a heart for evangelism*

The job of an ambassador of Christ is to show the world the Savior and that His ways and truth help us discover a better way to live! Let's be reminded as the Body of Christ that we are His temple, the actual presence of God in this world, to let Jesus minister through us, as He did while on earth Himself – and be His ambassadors and witnesses (2 Cor. 5:18-21, Acts 1:8, John 15:26, 27).

1. Read the following passages and make observations regarding the need for proclamation of the Gospel. What do these verses say about sharing the Gospel? Share your insights with others in your group.
  - Compare John 10:16 and John 17:20-24
  - Romans 10:9-17
  - Compare Acts 4:4, 12 with Isaiah 45:22
  - I John 1:1-4
  - Galatians 1:3 and Colossians 1:13
  - 1 Corinthians 15:1, 2
  - 2 Corinthians 2:1-5
  - Ephesians 1:13
  - Colossians 1:5, 6
  - Revelation 5:9, 10
2. What are the purposes of all works in John 20:30, 31? What kind of life is found in Jesus?
3. What is the aim of our unity in Acts 15:9, 11, 14, 17?
4. What is true of those who are living without Christ?
  - Acts 26:15-18
  - Romans 3:9-19
  - Romans 8:7, 8
  - 1 Corinthians 2:14
  - Ephesians 2:3-5
  - Ephesians 4:17, 18
5. What is the attitude of the laborer of Christ in these passages? Romans 1:14-17; 1 Corinthians 4:16; 1 Thessalonians 2:4, 8
6. Mark 4:1-12; Matthew 13:1-23. What are the implications of Matthew 13:18?
7. What is true of those who oppose the proclamation of the Gospel in 1 Thessalonians 2:14-16?
8. What do you notice about God's heart in Isaiah 48:17-19 and Isa. 45:22? Finish this sentence – "To enjoy life as it is meant to be enjoyed, ..."
9. What does mankind, the entire human race, need according to 1 Timothy 2:5, 6? See 2 Thessalonians 1:8, 9 also.

# Explorer Tools

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## USEFUL LINKS SHARED FOR EXPLORER TOOLS

### YOUR STORY IS GOD'S STORY & MYSTORY.ME

#### Appendix 3: Creating Your Testimony

Go to [mystory.me](http://mystory.me) . This platform was created in order for you to tell your own personal story with God and share it with others online or in person. The site has a great [training segment](#) which explains how the site works, how you can write, upload and share your story with the world or with your friends. You just need to [login](#) - or create a profile. Once you've a profile, you can upload your story and picture. [Here is an example](#). Once you did that you can share your story via various social media or you can [download a prototype of business cards](#) and the QR code of that business card will lead people to your story as you give away those.

### EVERYPERSON.COM

[EveryPerson.com](http://EveryPerson.com)

<https://www.everyperson.com/menus/intl.html>

### JESUS FILM APP

<https://www.jesusfilm.org/watch/conversation-starters.html/delight/english.html>

<https://www.jesusfilm.org/strategies-and-tools/resources/the-app.html>

### Other great online tools

1. [Soularium](#) -
2. [Perspective Cards](#)
3. [Digital toolbox](#)

### Really Great Short Films - by Producer Mary Beth Minnis

- a. [Return to Mogadishu: Remembering Black Hawk Down](#)
- b. [Imba Means Sing](#)
- c. [Mama Rwanda](#)
- d. [TOWER](#)
- e. [JUMP SHOT: The Kenny Sailors Story](#)
- f. [CLARKSTON: The Most Diverse Square Mile](#)
- g. [Imperdonabile/Unforgivable](#). <https://youtu.be/MDYixil-ry>

<https://vimeo.com/236418547> (Unforgivable)

# The Difference between a Person of Peace and God-Prepared People (*a 4th Soil Person*)

## Characteristics of Person of Peace

As in Luke 10:1-11 - Jesus tells the disciples where to go, what to say, with whom to talk, what to watch out for, and what to do if their message is rejected. These detailed instructions do not represent the goal of the assignment: A harvest. The overarching mission involves broad seed-sowing throughout Galilee.

Jesus' plan to care for the disciples as the "House rule" that provides a base of operation for fieldworkers assigned to unfamiliar mission fields - see Mark 10:6, Matthew 10:11, Luke 10:7

In other words, Jesus instructed His disciples to find a home base, then cease the search for more home bases. They were not to waste time looking for multiple homes while they sowed the area with the gospel. Is it possible for a Person of Peace to also be a Fourth-Soil Person? Certainly! When the area has been sown, travel to a new area and repeat the process; first find a Person of Peace, then again saturate the area with the gospel.

They are...

- Hospitable
- Generous
- Agreeable
- Open

Finding a Person of Peace helps you target your ministry area.

## Characteristics of God-Prepared People/Fourth-Soil People

Lydia (Acts 16:14-15), the Philippian jailer (Acts 16:25-34) and Matthew the tax collector (Matthew 9:9-10)

Each of these individuals becomes a believer and reproduces.

They represent a profile of the Fourth-Soil Person mentioned in the Parable of the Sower. According to the Parable of the Sower, a Fourth-Soil Person includes the following: believes the gospel, perseveres and reproduces even when passing through a time of testing (i.e., threat of persecution), and reproduces regardless of the threat and distractions of worry, riches, and pleasures of life.

Jesus provides additional information by describing the Fourth-Soil Person as a generous or hospitable person who reproduces (i.e., sees people come to know Jesus and makes new disciples) at a pace of thirtyfold, sixtyfold, or a hundredfold.

Sowers do not make Fourth-Soil People; they find them through seed-sowing. People often ask me how to transform second- and third-soil people into Fourth-Soil People. Although this is a possibility, remember Jesus' Parable of the Growing Seed (Mark 4:30-32; Mark places this parable after the Parable of the Sower)—that our assignment is only to sow and reap a harvest. Efforts to transform second- and

third-soil people into Fourth-Soil People should not replace broad seed-sowing efforts to find Fourth-Soil People in the harvest fields.

They...

- Are generous
- Open their relational networks
- Win their household, connect the disciples to the community, and start a movement in the community, as seen in Scriptural examples.
- Are Movement-Catalysts

### Questions for Discussion

1. After reading this, how would you explain the difference between the Person of Peace and the Fourth-Soil Person?
2. The Fourth-Soil Person multiplies through the oikos (household) principle.
3. How would you describe that in our modern world? What is our oikos?
4. How can you imagine this principle leading to movements?

# TIPS FOR WRITING YOUR STORY/TESTIMONY

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*“If someone asks about your hope as a believer, always be ready to explain it. But do this in a gentle and respectful way” (1 Peter 3:15-16, NLT).*

Work through these questions so you can be ready to tell your story when God opens a door.

## My Life Before Christ

- What about my life before Christ will relate most to the non-Christians I know?
- What did my life revolve around? Where did I get my security, identity or happiness from?
- How did those things begin to let me down?
- (\*) For those who have known Jesus from an early age, describe your life before you started walking with Him or describe a challenging season in your life.

## How I Came to Christ

- When was the first time I heard the gospel? What were my initial reactions?
- When and why did my perspective begin to change toward Christ?
- What were the final struggles that went through my mind just before I accepted Him? Why did I finally decide to accept Christ (or give Him complete control of my life)?
- (\*) How did Christ see you through your challenging season (s)?

## My Life After Coming to Christ

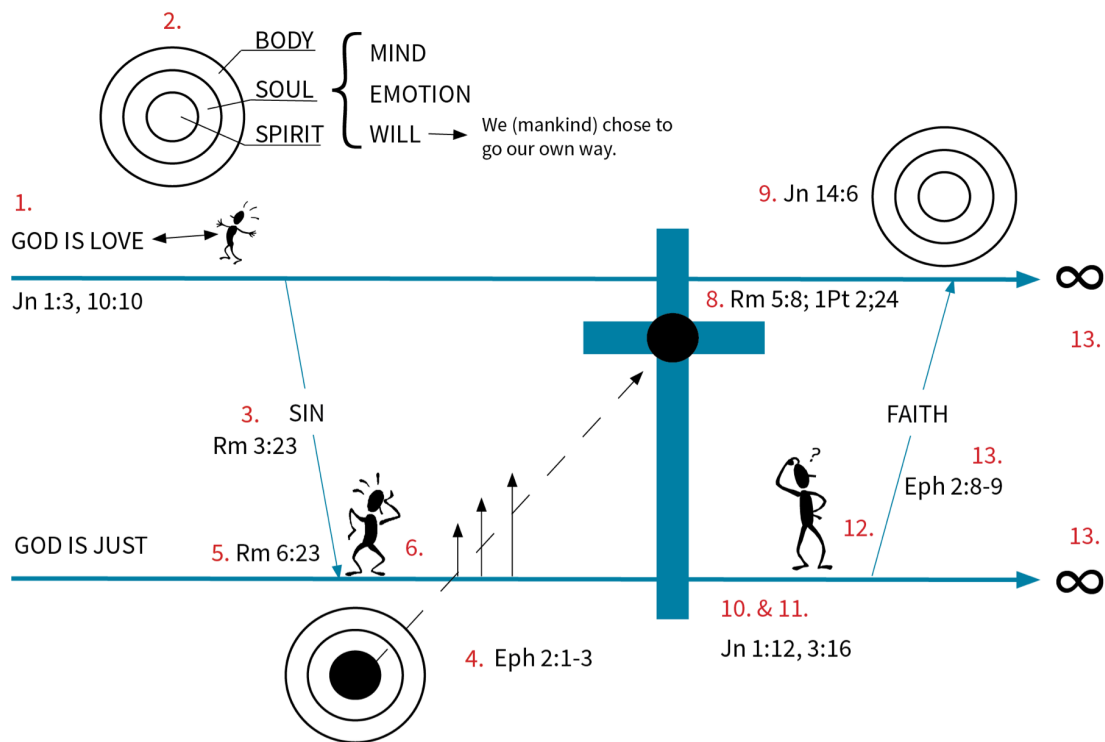
- How is my life different now? List some specific changes in your character, attitude and perspective on life.
- What motivates me now? What do I live for?
- Even though my life still isn't perfect, how does knowing Christ help me deal with that fact?
- Now that you've answered these questions, take a few minutes to write out your story as if you were telling it to someone. For more on writing your story read *Preparing Your Personal Testimony*.

## Helpful Hints

- Pray before you write out and share your story. Ask God for wisdom and the words to say.
- Write the way you speak.
- Be honest.
- Aim to keep your story to three to five minutes. At that length, it's easily something you can share in a conversation without it becoming a monologue.
- Practice your testimony out loud several times until you feel comfortable with it.
- Congratulations! You've created your personal testimony.



# Gospel on a Napkin



## The Gospel on a Napkin

Let's go a bit deeper into the Guide role. Being an effective guide involves two skills: knowing what the gospel is and how to share it well, along with your personal story of coming to Christ. In these next few minutes we will take the time to show how many share the gospel these days. In this example, we assume the conversation has progressed to a point – exercising the grace and wisdom of an Explorer – where now we can share the gospel openly. We call this the gospel on a napkin. See the illustration/diagram in the Appendix that goes along with this.

WHAT TO SAY	WHAT TO DRAW & WRITE
1. "Here are a few things that show us what the Bible says about knowing God personally." "God created mankind to know Him and have life abundantly in relationship with Him. He loves us. (Quote John 1:3, 10:10) He wants a relationship with us."	In the upper left corner, write "God is love" with an arrow going across the page
2. "When he created us, he gave us body, soul and spirit." "Our soul is our mind, will and emotions. Our spirit is where we find our meaning by being connected to God. Here we find our sense of purpose. We are meant to be whole by living in relationship with Him. Why are most people not experiencing an abundant life?" {Listen}	Draw circles and words as you explain in the middle of the page above the line you've drawn.
3. "As human beings, our soul set our minds on things independent from God (point to word: "mind"), and we longed for things (point to word: "emotions") that God warned mankind against. We chose to go our own independent way and fellowship with God was broken" (point to word: "will"). Quote Romans 3:23.	
4. "Ephesians 2:1-3 says we have died spiritually. We are separated from the life God intended us to have – a thriving life, one of abundance, connected to Him."	Color-in fully the circle called "spirit" with black ink – indicating man is dead spiritually.
5. "He is just and must correct what is unjust, what is wrong. There is a penalty for sin." Quote Romans 6:23.	Draw a line down from the "God is love" line and write the word "sin" on it. Now, draw a stick figure of a man on a new line with an arrow across the page – a lower parallel line. On the left, next to the lower line, write "God is Just and Holy".
6. "We try to recover the abundant life, knowing something is missing, by living a good life, taking adventures, being religious, philosophy, etc. But we cannot reach God or the abundant life because we have sinned."	
7. "We need help. New life must be given to us (because we are dead spiritually)."	Draw new circles for body, soul, spirit and say (pointing to spirit):
8. Quote these verses: Romans 5:8 and 1Peter 2:24. As you draw a dark circle say: "Jesus died for our sins, taking our penalty on himself."	Write "Romans 5:8" and "1 Peter 2:24" on the napkin between the two parallel lines. and draw a cross that intersects with both the top and bottom parallel lines (God is love and God is just and holy.) Draw a dark circle (representing sin and

	its penalty) on the center of the cross.
9. Quote John 14:6 and point to the inner circle (spirit), saying, "The life we need only Jesus can give us. Jesus is the WAY (to God), the TRUTH (He's trustworthy) and the LIFE (exactly what we need to overcome our spiritual death). He rose from the dead showing his payment for our sin was enough."	
10. Quote John 1:12.	
11. Quote John 3:16.	
12.	Draw a stick figure on the other side of the cross, a line going up to the God is love line, and the word faith on that line.
13. "God asks us to consider the consequences of our decision to receive Him by faith or not. We can know God's love forever, receiving his gift of grace, knowing He died in our place to pay the penalty of our sin. Yet, we can, of course, pay for it ourselves and be separated from Him - and life – forever." Quote Ephesians 2:8, 9.	Draw eternal symbol at the end of both parallel lines, saying,
14. "Receiving Christ involves turning to God from self (repentance) and trusting Christ to come into our lives to forgive us of our sins and to make us what He wants us to be. Just to agree intellectually that Jesus Christ is the Son of God and that He died on the cross for our sins is not enough. Nor is it enough to have an emotional experience. We receive Jesus Christ by faith, as an act of our will. You Can Receive Christ Right Now by Faith Through Prayer (prayer is talking with God). God knows your heart and is not so concerned with your words as He is with the attitude of your heart. The following is a suggested prayer: "Lord Jesus, I want to know You personally. Thank You for dying on the cross for my sins. I open the door of my life and receive You as my Savior and Lord. Thank You for forgiving me of my sins and giving me eternal life. Take control of the throne of my life. Make me the kind of person You want me to be." If this is the desire of your heart, you can place your trust in Him – put your faith in Him and His work (death to forgive you, resurrection to give you new life).	

# When Someone Says Yes to Jesus and The Gospel

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Remind them of the three things we need to do when someone says “yes” to the gospel.

1. Let them know that you want to help them grow in their new relationship with Jesus. Set up a time to start meeting with them for Bible study. Invite them to your church fellowship. As you follow the person up, help them to gain a vision for sharing their faith, albeit new faith in Christ and be intentional in it. Here is how you can motivate for this. Say, *“Builders keep lists: running tallies of lumber, lunch orders, roofing nails, and the like. A CoJourneyer does the same in their role as a Builder. We want to pray by name for those God has carefully placed in our life who don’t yet know Him. It’s a list we can always add to and update as we explore the lives of our friends and acquaintances.”*
2. Ask them, *“Who are some others that need to hear this?”* Encourage them to pray for those people regularly. Help them download *GodTools* or encourage using Gospel on a Napkin. \*This is a VERY important step that allows us to see the multiplication of the gospel. We have learned that a Person of Peace is a person of relationship. They are excited and open to reach their network of family and friends with the good news. You are simply casting a vision for this from the very beginning of their new life in Christ.
3. Pray for them before you leave.

# CoJourney Builder's Resources:

## Sent 6:7 - Launch Session 7 Supplement

- COJOURNERS FIELD GUIDE (teaching notes and session notes) can be found at:  
<https://churchmovements.com/develop-leaders/#CoJourners>
- Great resources - not an exhaustive list:
  - *JesusFilm* app: short film section can be used to enhance conversation
  - Everyperson.com
  - Newman, Randy. *Questioning Evangelism: Engaging People's Hearts the Way Jesus Did*. Kregel Publications, 2004.
  - Geisler & Geisler. *Conversational Evangelism: How to Listen and Speak so You Can Be Heard*. Harvest House Publishers, 2009.
  - Moreland & Muehlhoff. *The God Conversation: Using Stories and Illustrations to Explain Your Faith*. IVP, 2007.
  - Pollock, Doug. *God Space: Where Spiritual Conversations Happen Naturally*. Group, 2009.
  - Richardson, Rick. *Reimagining Evangelism: Inviting Friends on a Spiritual Journey*. IVP, 2006.
  - James, Rick. *Jesus Without Religion*. IVP, 2007.
  - John Lennox: [johnlennox.org](http://johnlennox.org)
  - Veritas Forum
  - McDowell, Josh and McDowell, Sean. *More than a Carpenter*. Tyndale House, 2009.
  - Strobel, Lee. *The Case for Faith* and *The Case for Christ*.

# Pursue 1: Called by Jesus

## 16 Foundational Bible Studies Teaching Notes

\*[Stories of Hope](#) (for those who are not believers yet, but interested to explore their relationship with Jesus)

1. [Assurance of Salvation](#)
2. [Relationship and Fellowship](#)
3. [Keeping in Step with the Spirit](#)
4. [Boldly Identifying with Jesus](#)
5. [Growing through God's Word](#)
6. [Talking with God](#)
7. [Abiding in Jesus](#)
8. [Amazing Question and Care](#)
9. [God Prepared People](#)
10. [My Story](#)
11. [Being a Witness](#)
12. [Opening Doors](#)
13. [Committing to One Another](#)
14. [Remembering Jesus' Sacrifices](#)
15. [Giving with Purpose](#)
16. [Cost of Discipleship](#)



# NEIGHBORHOOD BLOCK PARTY KIT

AN EASY HOW-TO GUIDE  
TO ORGANIZE A NEIGHBORHOOD BLOCK PARTY

## INTRODUCTION

A neighborhood block party is the opportunity for neighbors to get together, meet each other, have fun, and maybe work together on a common activity.

## 7 REASONS TO HAVE A BLOCK PARTY

- To provide an opportunity to know your neighbors and where they live.
- To increase a sense of belonging within your community.
- To learn a little about each other and know who might need a little extra help from time to time.
- To meet neighbors on your block and the skills you offer one another. You might be able to help you with a gardening problem, or lend you that needed ingredient for your recipe.
- To help with safety/crime prevention by knowing who lives around you.
- To develop an opportunity to meet some of the older neighbors and learn about your community's history.
- To have fun – no excuses or reasons are needed to celebrate.

## PLANNING YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD BLOCK PARTY

Things to consider when organizing your event.

### 1. GETTING STARTED

- The idea of a neighborhood block party is to bring neighbors together. It's a good idea to find 1 or 2 neighbors to help you with the event.
- One can take the "Lone Ranger" approach, and it can be a great event. However, it may make it more difficult to find someone else to organize it next year.
- If this is the first time you may want to send out a flyer to explain what a Block Party is, encourage attendance, perhaps share some of the benefits, get opinions on how to handle the food, and possible dates and times to have the event.
- Enlist as many neighbors as you can to help out. Someone can type the flyer; someone else can collect them. You may want to ask some kids to drop the flyers in the mailboxes.



## **2. TYPES OF BLOCK PARTIES**

Which type of block party will work best in your neighborhood? Try not to go overboard, it can make people feel the event is too much work...Keep it Simple!

- Barbecues - organizers purchase all that is needed and neighbors provide the money; - everyone brings his or her own meat.
- Picnics -- everyone brings their own meal;
- Pot luck - everyone brings one dish;
- Catered -- everyone shares the cost and the food is purchased.

## **3. HOW BIG TO MAKE IT**

- Start off with a smaller event rather than a large one. It can always grow, but it is hard to shrink it.
- In selecting who to invite, use natural neighborhood boundaries where possible (i.e. end of the block). If you are planning a street or cul-de-sac party, you need to invite everyone from that area.
- Decide early and make it clear in your flyer if this will be a block party restricted to those on the street/block or whether people can invite friends/relatives (if yes how many).

## **4. LOCATION**

- A neighbor's backyard
- House
- Garage (rainout)
- Common room in a condo unit
- Alley \*\*
- Street \*\*
- Park \*\*

\*\* Because these locations are on public lands, an application or permit may be required. Safety needs to be an important factor in planning!

## **5. CITY APPLICATIONS AND PERMITS**

- If you want to close down a street or re-direct traffic, your city may have application requirements.
- Permits may also be required if the event involves a public park, alcohol consumption, sound-amplifying equipment, etc.
- Remember that at the end of the function, public sites need to be cleaned and left in good condition.
- Look online at your city's website and call city hall to obtain more information about the requirements where you live. Often if you search "block party" on the website, you will find policies and additional resources.

\*\*\*Don't let obstacles stand in your way...It is worth it!\*\*\*

## **6. THE TIMING TO GET THE EVENT PLANNED**

- For a first time block party, distribute the first flyer requesting feedback 4 to 5 weeks before the event.
- Adjustments may need to be made if a neighbor already has an event of their own planned.
- Once you have looked at all the suggestions, the final flyer with date, time and what to bring should go out 3 weeks before the event.
- Mid-May to end of August is a good time.
- A weekend date or holiday is often the best times for the event.
- Have an alternate rainout day planned, just in case.
- Keep in mind who lives in the neighborhood when setting the hours for the party.
- If young children or seniors are living near the party area plan to finish by 9:00pm.

## **7. GETTING THE WORD OUT**

It is important to keep neighbors informed. Here are some ideas:

- Flyers can be used with a request to put their suggestions for the event in your mailbox.
- Information can be gathered from your neighbors by going door-to-door. This adds a personal touch and people often offer to help.
- A casual approach can be used to inform neighbors as you see them out working in their yards.

- Neighbors can be called on the phone. (If you don't know your neighbors, a reverse directory telephone book can be used. They are available at libraries.)
- Make an extra effort to get your new neighbors out to the event.
- To reach neighbors in Townhouses, apartments and condos, it is best to approach the manager. They will let you know how to get in touch with the residents.
- Take every opportunity to talk it up in the neighborhood as often as possible prior to the event.

## **8. ROLE OF THE ORGANIZERS**

- Make decisions about the set up.
- Act as a greeter at the event.
- Introduce new neighbors and help them make connections.
- Make sure the clean-up is done. (You may wish to inspire clean up by rewarding the children with a prize.)

## **9. SET UP**

- Set up a **sign-in book** for records for the next year, and it can help develop a contact list for the neighborhood.
- **Nametags** can be a great help.
- Decide what you want neighbors to write on their name tags (e.g. -first and last names, house numbers).
- Line up **tables** for the food and have a few **garbage cans** available.
- Decide whether you will coordinate or everyone will bring their own **tables and chairs plates, cutlery and cups, beverages**. If using **barbecues**, who will bring them?
- Institute a bathroom policy "everyone to use his or her own", so that home security is maintained.
- Decide if **pets** are allowed.
- Be ready to oversee the **clean up** after the event.

## **10. ACTIVITIES DURING THE EVENT**

What should we do during the event?

- Visit and eat. Over the centuries, food has always had a very social component in societies.
- Games for kids (some organized, some they can plan themselves).
- Take time to introduce one another and point to one's house. This can be done in a game format
- Encourage the talent in your neighborhood to come forward such as musicians, magicians.

## **OTHER WAYS TO GET TO KNOW YOUR NEIGHBORS**

- Christmas gift exchange
- Garden tour party
- Neighborhood garage sale
- When in doubt, ask your neighbors for ideas.

## **FINAL REMINDERS**

- Neighbors should observe security precautions by keeping back doors locked and equipment in sight.
- Remember when setting up tables and chairs that emergency vehicles may need access.
- You may wish to post signs the day before the event to remind everyone to remove cars for events involving street closure.



# *Certificate of Achievement*

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*successfully completed the "Sent 6:7 LAUNCH" training*

*"And the word of God continued to increase,  
and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly."*

*Acts 6:7*

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*Date*



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*Signature of Facilitator*

Sent 6:7 Next Step Goals Sheet

[illegible]

## OIKOS NETWORK LIST

**Name of your accountability partner:**

Participant's Network:

At Session 1, you will be asked to write down the name of your Accountability Partner from this training.

At Session 2, you will be asked to write down the names of 2-3 Christians whom you know from outside of this training - people of FAITH that could join LAUNCH. (Missional Leader = called, capable and motivated to train others.)

At Session 3, you will be asked to write down the names of people with whom you can live the prayer-care-share lifestyle.

Participant's Network: At Session 1, you will be asked to write down the name of your Accountability Partner from this training.  At Session 2, you will be asked to write down the names of 2-3 Christians whom you know from outside of this training - people of FAITH that could join LAUNCH. (Missional Leader = called, capable and motivated to train others.)  At Session 3, you will be asked to write down the names of people with whom you can live the prayer-care-share lifestyle.	non-believer	new believer	follower	missional leader
Total				